

EPA-BBL-4772

Phil North/R10/USEPA/US

11/02/2010 09:57 PM

To Michael Szerlog, Patricia McGrath

cc

bcc

Subject Fw: [bbwg] Canadian mine decision

Not directly applicable but perhaps instructive. I have not yet read either report.

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"To protect your rivers, protect your mountains."

----- Forwarded by Phil North/R10/USEPA/US on 11/02/2010 05:56 PM -----

From: "jeff parker" <gparker@alaska.net>
To: Phil North/R10/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 11/02/2010 05:30 PM
Subject: FW: [bbwg] Canadian mine decision

News Release

Government of Canada Announces Decisions on Mount Milligan and Prosperity Gold-Copper Mines

OTTAWA, Ont. -- November 2, 2010 -- The Government of Canada today announced decisions on two gold-copper mine project proposals in British Columbia. The proposal for the Mount Milligan mine, near Prince George, has been granted federal authorizations to proceed. However, the Prosperity mine project as proposed, near Williams Lake, cannot be granted federal authorizations to proceed due to concerns about the significant adverse environmental effects of the project.

"The Government has considered both projects carefully, particularly their environmental impacts," said Environment Minister, Jim Prentice. "We believe in balancing resource stewardship with economic development. The Mount Milligan project has been designed in a way that minimizes impacts to the environment, while the significant adverse environmental effects of the Prosperity project cannot be justified as it is currently proposed."

The Mount Milligan project underwent environmental assessments under provincial legislation and the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA). The CEAA process involved the conduct of a comprehensive study. Both environmental assessments determined that, with the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures, the project is not likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.

The Prosperity project has also undergone a thorough review process, including an environmental assessment by the province of British Columbia and a Federal Review Panel under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* . In making its decision, the Government of Canada took into consideration the conclusions of the report of the Federal Review Panel, and agreed with the Panel's conclusions about the environmental impacts of the project.

Related documents:

Mount Milligan <

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=E8C75DB6-CE1E-455E-8C87-A4509A6F414A>>

[Backgrounder - 2010-11-02]

Prosperity <

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=714D9AAE-1&news=AE2B6109-C75B-4564-A84A-CB4F2F3E6385>>

[Backgrounder - 2010-11-02]

For more information, please see the attached backgrounder or contact:

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